



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held August 10, 2004, the Board took the following action:

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The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Yaroslavsky and Molina:

“More than 120 million Americans suffer from chronic and life-threatening diseases, such as diabetes, cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer’s, multiple sclerosis, HIV/AIDS, Parkinson’s, ALS, osteoporosis and spinal-cord afflictions. These devastating medical conditions cost Californians hundreds of billions of dollars annually in health care expenses. Medical researchers have learned that many diseases and injuries could be treated and even cured by new regenerative medicine therapies involving human stem cells; ‘unspecialized’ cells which can generate healthy new cells and tissues and thus hold the potential for lifesaving treatments for many different illnesses and injuries.

“Most medical experts now view stem cell research as the new frontier in medicine, capable not only of improving and even saving millions of lives, but also helping to reduce the burden and expense of billions of dollars in health care costs, if adequate funding is made available to conduct the necessary research. Unfortunately, California offers no State-level funding for stem cell research, and there is a significant gap in Federal funding for some of the most promising types of stem-cell research. To address this situation, the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Initiative, Proposition 71 on the November 2, 2004 ballot, will provide much needed funding for life-saving stem cell research by authorizing low-interest, tax-free bonds that will yield an estimated \$295 million annually for 10 years to fund research by scientists at universities and advanced medical facilities in California.

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“The initiative includes strict fiscal and public accountability, tight ethical guidelines, and in addition to bringing benefit to patients themselves, it will protect and benefit the State budget and our economy.”

Linda Gledhill and Arnie Berghoff representing the American Diabetes Association, Julie Buckner representing Yes on 71!, Ken Bernstein representing the Diabetes Research Institute, Dr. Kevin Kaiserman representing Childrens Hospital Los Angeles, Cheyanne Cook representing the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce and Mark Siegel representing APDA AFSCME, addressed the Board.

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, seconded by Supervisor Molina, duly carried by the following vote: Ayes: Supervisors Molina, Burke, Knabe, and Yaroslavsky; Noes: Supervisor Antonovich, the Board endorsed Proposition 71, the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Initiative, which will provide much needed funding for life-saving stem cell research by authorizing low-interest, tax-free bonds that will yield an estimated \$295 million annually for 10 years to fund research by scientists at universities and advanced medical facilities in California; and urged the voters of California to vote YES on this ballot measure on November 2, 2004.

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